

# Peters Township Public Library

## ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Lifelong Learning  
Creative Learning Collaborative  
Taste of Township enrich and empower World Affairs Council  
Dr. Samuel Hazo Book/Film Discussions  
Civil War Programming  
GO Green Camp for Kids  
Elf on the Shelf  
streaming movies  
eBooks online resources mobile web site  
Maker Space Author Events  
Wi-Fi Finch Robots Book Buzz  
digital magazines Fall Animal Fair  
Take Your Child to the Library Day  
Downton Abbey Afternoon Tea  
The Gallery





### Peters Township Library Board

Front row, L to R: Margaret Verlato, Treasurer; Judith Adler-McNutt, Secretary; Carol Adler, Vice-President; Kathleen McEvoy; Pier Lee, Library Director; Myra Oleynik. Back row, L to R: Scott Beinhauer; Mark R. McFarlin; Richard F. Easton, President; Frank Danyo.

### GRANTS IN 2014

- A Pennsylvania Public Library Broadband Connectivity Micro Grant from the Pennsylvania State Library to improve Wi-Fi service in the library. Patrons have access to high-speed internet from any location within the library. User sessions can now be measured for statistical purposes.
- A Washington Financial Foundation Grant to assist with the purchase and installation of a new circulation desk on the first floor.
- A grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History for programs focusing on American history topics

The Peters Township Public Library marked 15 years in our present facility on April 17, 2014. What an opportune time to reflect on where we have come from and to make plans for where we are going!

At the end of 1998, there was great anticipation about the move to the new library facility. At that time, the library had holdings of 81,309 items and two public access computer workstations. There was no online catalog, and digital resources were limited to simple internet searches and CD-ROMs.

Today we offer our patrons a variety of resources from our collection of over 126,000 items, not including eResources ! Check the catalog via our **mobile web site** and you will find an enormous selection of print and audio materials, **e Readers, robots, digital magazines, college courses on DVD, and video games** – items we could only have dreamed of 15 years ago!

Though much has changed since 1999, our commitment...*to enrich and empower every patron*...remains constant. The tools at hand are not only what patrons find on our shelves or on our web site. Our library staff strives to provide excellent programs for every age group, many of which are highlighted in this report. With the support of our patrons, we plan for the library to remain a welcoming destination for the entire community.

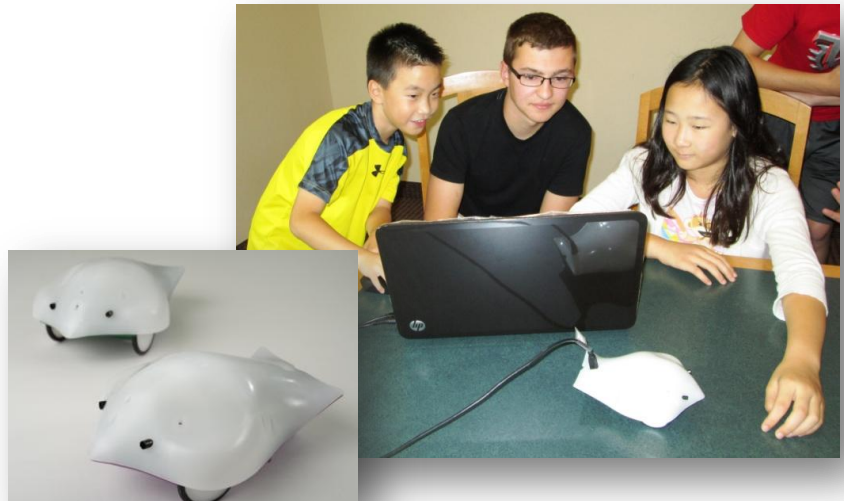
*The Board and Staff of the  
Peters Township Public Library*

### Mission Statement

*In support of an informed citizenry, Peters Township Public Library provides printed and recorded materials, programs, equipment and staff services to meet the community's educational, professional, and recreational needs. The library strives to enrich and empower every patron by fostering a love of learning.*



In mid-July, library began offering its patrons an exciting way to learn the art of computer programming with a new **Finch Robot** available for checkout. The Finch is a small robot designed for computer science education for students as young as 8 years old. It was created after four years of study at Carnegie Mellon's CREATE lab. The library is the first location in Pennsylvania to launch a program lending the Finch.

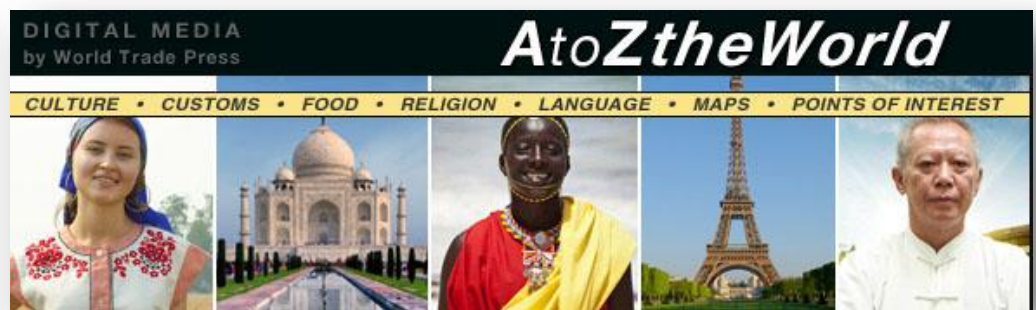


Replacing Zinio, the library now offers **Flipster**, providing patrons easy access to the most popular magazines through the library web site. Browse current or back issues on your computer, table, phone, or other mobile device with an internet connection. Titles available include *Time*, *Consumer Reports*, *People*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Money*, and much more.

More **online resources** available than ever before including:



**Freegal Movies and TV**



**A to Z the World**



**One More Story**



**TeachingBooks.net**



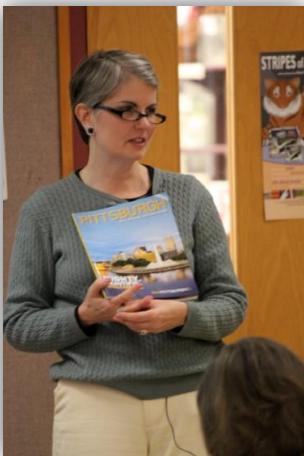
## CURRENT AFFAIRS

- *National Security Challenges in 2014 and Beyond* with Army War College Panelists
- *Breaking the Links: a Campaign Against Human Trafficking* with Matt Friedman. Both programs in partnership with the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh with funding by McMurray Veterans of Foreign Wars POST 764.



## HISTORY

- *Civil War 150! Women in the Civil War* by Dr. Elaine Frantz Parsons and
- *Civil War 150! American Poetry and the Civil War* by Dr. Faith Barrett, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Civil War 150! is a collaboration between The Library of America and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.
- *Origins of the Great War, 1914* with Dr. Todd DePastino
- *Pittsburgh: Whiskey Rebellion, Prohibition, and the Restoration of a Pittsburgh Tradition* with Meredith Grelli of Wigle Whiskey
- *Gettysburg and Lincoln: the Aftermath and the Address* with Rea Redd



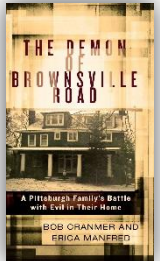
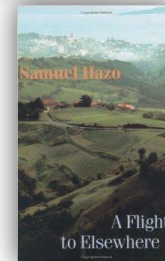
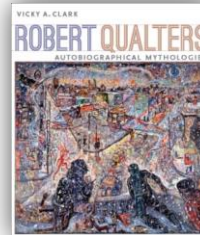
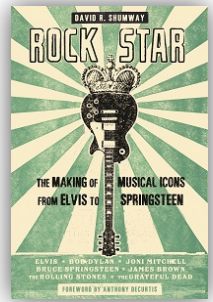
## LIFELONG LEARNING

- *Learn to be a Tourist in the Burgh* with Tinsie Labrie, VP Marketing for VisitPITTSBURGH
- *Finding Health Care through the Marketplace*, a PA Forward Program with Christina Livingston of Cornerstone Care
- *College Financial Aid Night* and *FAFSA Completion Workshop* in partnership with the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency
- *ABCs of Selling Online* with Dr. Robert Stein, in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh's Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence and Peters Township Chamber of Commerce
- *From Romance to Intimacy: Changing Stories of Love, Courtship and Marriage* book/film discussion series with David R. Shumway
- *Trash to Treasure* with Nancy Veljstrup, Master Gardner and Exhibit Designer
- Cooking Club Fun for Foodies program series, including a *Downton Abbey Afternoon Tea*, *5<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Foods Potluck Dinner*, and *Food Lover's Guide to Pittsburgh* with the eatPGH authors and food bloggers.



## AUTHOR EVENTS

- ***The Johnstown Girls*** with mystery author Kathleen George
- ***Pick-Up Lines That Work: Powerful Openings in Young Adult Books*** a PA Forward Speak Up! program with Stephanie Keyes, Joshua Bellin, Patricia Easton, Carla Mooney, and Leah Pileggi
- ***An Evening with Dr. Samuel Hazo***, author of poetry, fiction, essays and four plays
- ***Robert Qualters: Autobiographical Mythologies*** with Pittsburgh artist Robert Qualters
- ***Demon of Brownsville Road*** with former Allegheny County Commissioner Bob Cranmer
- ***Rock Star: the Making of Musical Icons from Elvis to Springsteen*** with David R. Shumway



## EVENTS FOR CHILDREN, TEENS, and THEIR FAMILIES

- ***Take Your Child to the Library Day*** with music by Josh and Gab
- ***Fall Animal Fair*** in partnership with over 20 animal organizations and local business
- ***Write-On Kids Writing Contest*** in partnership with WQED
- National Library Week ***Ton of Books*** contest
- ***WQED/PBS Kids Present*** program series
- ***Book Buzz*** cable television program, highlighting books and activities in the Children's and YA Departments
- ***Themed Storytimes*** including Clifford the Big Red Dog, Batman 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, American Girl, Super Heroes, and Princess Party
- ***Hunger Games*** and ***Divergent*** book/film parties for teens
- ***Elf on the Shelf*** Contest



## PERFORMANCES AND CULTURAL EVENTS

- ***13<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Township*** library fundraiser
- ***The Gallery***, 9<sup>th</sup> annual student photography exhibit with Peters Township High School Photography Club
- ***Amateur Photography Contest*** sponsored by the Lensshooters Club
- ***Release party for The Flame*** Peters Township High School literary magazine
- ***Ghost Stories for Grown-Ups*** with Alan Irvine
- ***Nutcracker Storytime*** by the Pittsburgh Youth Ballet Company and School
- ***Peters Township Middle School Art Exploration Display***



## "GREEN" PROGRAMS

- ***Green Wednesdays Film Series***, featuring documentaries about environmental issues
- ***GO Green Camp for Kids***, 3-day camp for grade school children
- ***Great Halloween Costume Swap***, costume recycling program





### STATISTICS FOR 2014

349,550	Total Circulation
192,826	Visitors to the Library
126,138	Total Collection
21,301	Downloaded Materials
77,142	Visits to the Library Web Site
18, 341	Patron Questions Answered
23, 960	Total Library Cardholders
20, 451	Patrons Used Library Computers
21,117	Children Attended 635 Programs
2,208	Young Adults Attend 354 Programs
5,162	Adults Attended 274 Programs
3,141	Patrons Used Study Rooms

The library continues to make progress on its **Maker Space**, an area where creativity is encouraged and patrons are supported in their efforts to seek out do-it-yourself solutions to everyday problems. Located on the second floor, the space offers, three 3-D printers, a sewing machine, an embroidery machine, a 3-D pen, a Scan-N-Cut Cutting Machine, and a heat-free laminator for patrons to use and become inspired.

Several renovation projects will be taking place including:

- Installation of new flooring in the lobby, Multi-Purpose Room, and stairwell
- Installation of a new circulation desk
- Renovation of the existing Technical Services Department into a new public reading area and café
- Renovation and modernization of the existing computer lab

In cooperation with the Peters Township Community Television, a virtual tour of the library will be created and aired on the Peters Township cable channel and posted at the library's website and social media.

A partnership with the Creative Learning Collaborative will continue with this parent-led group dedicated to providing information about educational extracurricular programs for the benefit of parents and students in Peters Township and surrounding areas.

The rapid pace of change brought about by technology poses great challenges and opportunities in improving library services. Ongoing research by the Library Board Technology Committee will help to define how the library needs to develop existing technology and adapt new technology to meet the needs of the community.